

Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade
May 9, 2011
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Important Dates

May 9	MAP Testing - Math
May 12	Holmes School Festival of the Arts (6:00pm)
May 17	Moving On Transition Picnic
May 18	How to Succeed in 5th Grade Letter Due
May 19	Social Studies Living History Interview Due
May 26	Trish Quane Memorial
May 30	Memorial Day - No School
June 2	Pool Field Trip
June 3	Completion Ceremony
June 7	Last Day of School

Dear Families,

On **May 18th** Whole Foods will give out paper bags decorated by our Holmes School Zero Waste Ambassadors. We encourage you and your family to shop at Whole Foods that day and bring home a bag made by one of our Ambassadors! It's a great opportunity to highlight our program, give our Ambassadors some publicity and encourage reuse of a bag.

Every year, Holmes School hosts a fun free family event in memory of Trish Quane, a Holmes teacher who was tragically killed just before the start of the school year 6 years ago. This year we are hosting See a Juggler, Be a Juggler on Thursday evening, May 26 at 6:15pm. Please join us if you can!

Another reminder that as we approach the end of the year there are many exciting events students have the privilege of participating in. We have emphasized with all students that our expectations regarding behavior and classwork/homework completion have not changed. Significant behavior incidents or a decline in academics may result in loss of privileges (including attending the pool trip) regardless of guilder eligibility.

SPECIALS

Spanish Students can read their current story, *Ovejas Modelos* to someone for 15 extra points. <http://mpoleski.blogspot.com/p/quintofifth.html>

Art

Starting this week, 5th graders will begin painting a mural on the fence around the earth tub. Our ambitious goal is to be done by June 7th. The weather prevented us for getting started on this project sooner . . . We would love any help parents could offer during art time (8:15-9:21 on every day but Wednesday), or any other time as well. I have a smock for every student to paint in, but please consider sending an old pair of sweat pants or shoes.



Reading/Literature

This week, our focus will be on cause and effect relationships. We will look at the causes and effects of events in our literature circle novels, but we will also examine the causes for The Great Chicago Fire. After students read about the causes of The Great Chicago Fire, they will have the opportunity to participate in the Architecture Adventure program. Ms. Adrienne McMullen will be coming in to give a presentation to 5P and 5Y this Thursday, May 12th and to 5K and 5M next Thursday, May 19th.

Math

Graded Unit 10 tests were returned to students on Friday. Please review the test with your child and sign it if a signature has been requested. Students who scored below grade level may correct mistakes and turn in the test for regrading. Quizzes will be returned to students tomorrow. Students have begun working on their Million Dollar Projects. Although we will have some time to work on the projects during class, students will be required to complete some of the research as homework. Projects will be presented beginning May 27. This week in class, we will focus on volume of cones and pyramids, and capacity and weight.

Science

This week, we will be dissecting sheep hearts! The students have been asking about this all year and are very excited. In order to participate, students need to exhibit respectful and responsible behavior which includes listening and following directions. We will also continue to talk about different substances that can harm the human body.

Social Studies

The Living History project is due Thursday, May 19. Students must interview an adult about an event in history they remember. Students will have the option of filming or recording the interview if desired, and all students will share what they learned. The instruction sheet/ rubric is on the fifth grade Wiki if your student needs another copy.

Last week, we discussed 9/11 in conjunction with the current event involving Osama Bin Laden; the transcontinental railroad; the progressive era; and women's suffrage. We will continue to discuss historical events and practice Shakespeare.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack**
<http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

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Visit us at:
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